

The Painting



Connection

Concord, California, U.S.A.

A Monthly Newsletter
Marianne Simpson, Editor
Loretta Mateik, Webmaster
Website: tollbridgetolers.org

2011 Issue Number Nine
October 2011



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Karen Vecchi



Trick or Treat – I am sure we'll all get something good to eat at our wonderful potato bar dinner we have planned for this month. Connie Oakley is organizing this and it is always wonderful with more choices than your plate can hold. It should be wonderful. We have a lot planned for the last couple of months of this year, so plan on enjoying all the activities –

- Halloween exchange (10/18);
- Ornament frenzy (11/12-money due to Liz D. by 10/10)
- Christmas ornament exchange (11/15); and
- Holiday party (12/13)

We will also be electing officers for 2012 and presenting our charities (Blue Star Moms and Independent Living Skills Program) with the proceeds from our Bunko raffle. Plan on joining us for the fun!

Karen Vecchi
President

PROGRAMS

Connie Oakley
1st Vice President



I would like to thank Shirley Irwin for teaching the Pumpkin and Black Cat magnetic clip. It is a darling project that will come in handy for our Halloween decorating.

Fall is just around the corner and so is our Halloween Ornament Exchange. We will be having a Potato Bar at our October meeting. A signup sheet was passed around at the meeting. Below is a list of the sign ups. If you plan to come to the October meeting and have not signed up, please either email me: oakley1@ltnl.gov or call me 925-825-3851 with what you would like to bring. I am in need of at least another person to bring 10 baked potatoes.



- Trish Bertolucci – Potatoes
- Barbara Bouchet – Potatoes
- Barb Flavin – Dessert
- Lucie Flynn - Undecided
- Lucille Hart – Dessert
- D'Ann Hayes – Olives
- Shirley Irwin – Dessert
- Loretta Mateik – Undecided

Cathy McCaughey – Sour Cream
Connie Oakley – Cheese
Jann Otvos – Chili
Merlene Ryan – Butter
Marianne Simpson – Bacon Bits
Darlene Smith – Green Salad
Jeanie Strech – Dessert
Karen Vecchi – Undecided

In November we will be having our Annual Ornament Exchange. Every year we have so many creative ornaments that are painted by our members. I look forward each year to our ornament exchanges and hope that you are all busy painting your ornaments for our next two meetings.

Thoughts to ponder . . . Do you know the origin of Screen Painting? Long considered an indigenous form of folk art, the first screens were painted in 1913 by William Oktavek, an immigrant Czechoslovakian artist and grocer. Concerned about his wilting outdoor produce display during Baltimore's infamous hot and humid summer days, Oktavek moved his fruits and vegetables inside and painted pictures of his merchandise on the outside of his store screens to show the public what was sold inside. His customers immediately noticed that they could not see inside the store from the outside during the day, but once inside, as they looked out, it was as if there was nothing on the screen at all. A few days later, one of his regulars came to him with a picture from a calendar and she asked him to reproduce that picture onto her window screens. She had also noticed that she couldn't see through the painted screen into the store and she wanted her screens painted to keep the "bums" that hung out on the nearby corner from looking in. So, he painted the windmill from her calendar onto her screens and soon the entire neighborhood had him painting their screens as well.

The painted screens provided a nice decorated picture for the row house dweller, and more importantly, they furnished daytime privacy when the shades were up or the curtains were pulled back. "You can see out, but nobody can see in" became the catch phrase all over the city. That's the main reason painted screens are still so popular - the unobtrusive privacy they afford. Painted Screens soon spread like wildfire throughout the city.

A new fad was born that developed into a tradition that still survives. You could always find someone painting screens every few blocks during their heyday from the 1920s to the 1940s. But after World War II, mostly due to the intervention of air-conditioning and the rising suburban exodus, the folk art fell into decline. There were, however, always one or two people still painting screens.

Hope to see you all at our October 18th



meeting.

Connie



MEMBERSHIP

Jeanie Strech
2nd Vice President

I want to thank all the members who sent in their dues ahead of the "dues" due date. It makes it so much easier not having all the members signing in all at once. Thanks so much. The Board and I are in hopes that all 67 members will rejoin our great chapter of hard working, very generous, fun loving folks. It is said that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. I am here to say we have a very strong chapter. Hopefully we can stay strong and healthy this next year as well as we embark on a new year of great fun.

I hope everyone will be at the next meeting for the Potato Bar and Halloween ornament exchange. Mark your calendars for October 18th, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanie Strech,
2nd V/P Membership

WAYS & MEANS

**Vivian Roubal, Merlene Ryan,
Carrie Garrett & Eileen Galea**

Congratulations to Darlene Smith for winning the prize that Cathy McCaughey donated at the September meeting. Thank you Cathy for donating a gift again this month.

Here's a special shout out to the following people for their help with the bunko party. From tying down tablecloths to making truffles, from calling raffle numbers to manning the beverage bar, these ladies went over and beyond. Thank you all again and again!

Cathy McCaughey, Marianne Simpson, Connie Oakley, Barbara Bouchet, Tamara Mannon, Lisa Schall, Liz Little,

Karen Vecchi, Shirley Irwin, Jann Otvos, Loretta Mateik, Jeanie Strech, Robin Actherberg.

Thank you also to all of the husbands, sons, daughters, friends, nieces and nephews who jumped in and helped pull it all together.

We found a plate with yellow/golden flowers on it and a heart shaped silver earring with a red die in the center in the kitchen when we cleaned up. Give Vivian a call at 925-216-8761 if either of the items is yours.

The Martinez Gazette ran a story on Toll Painting and Toll Bridge Tolers in the Tuesday, September 27th edition. To read the article, go to their online newspaper at martinezgazette.com. Enter "Vivian Roubal" into the search box. The title of the story is "Life is a Banquet". You might see some familiar faces there!



SEMINARS & PAINT-INS
Liz Doran

Our Ornament Frenzy #8 is Saturday, November 12, 2011 from 8:00AM to 8:00 PM at the Plumbers Hall in Martinez, Ca. Your registration fee of \$45.00 is a full day of painting, the surface to paint on, paint to finish your pieces, and a continental breakfast, lunch and dinner will be served.

I plan to have your kits at the October meeting so you can prep your wood.

Registration deadline is October 10, 2011. We need many to sign up. If teachers are taking the classes, they also need to sign up.

Please send your registration forms and fees to Liz Doran, 4920 Cabrillo Point, Discovery Bay, CA 94505 soon.

Liz



Loretta's Winter Bunny



Loretta's Santa w/ garland



Liz Little's Christmas Bunny



Merlene Ryan's Gingerbread Man with Rolling Pin



Shirley Irwin's Halloween Boo



AWARDS & RECOGNITION
Tamara Mannon

Cathy McCaughey was gracious enough to present the awards for me while I was in Portland. THANK YOU CATHY. Here are the awards that Cathy passed out:

- Barb Flavin – 15th Anniversary
- Shirley Irwin – Bunko
- Barbara Bouchet – Bunko
- Carrie Garrett – Bunko
- Eileen Galea – Bunko
- Karen Vecchi – 15th Anniversary and Bunko
- Lucille Hart – County Fair
- Marianne Simpson – 15th Anniversary/Merlene's Paint-in/Bunko
- Merlene Ryan – County Fair and Bunko
- Connie Oakley – 15th Anniversary and Bunko
- Cathy McCaughey – Bunko
- Vicki Gardiner – May paint-in (I presented her with her pin in Portland)

For the 15th anniversary, Rob cut out miniature lanterns that resembled the lanterns painted for the luncheon— thank you Rob. The bunko, you probably guessed, were 3 small dice.

We have a lot of members who go out of their way to help so please don't forget to send me your nominations in an email.

Thanks everyone,
Tamara



TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS ELECTION 2012

Proposed Slate Board Members

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NOMINEE(S)</u>
President	Karen Vecchi
1 st VP (Programs)	Connie Oakley
2 nd VP (Membership)	Liz Little
Secretary	Darlene Smith
Treasurer	Barb Flavin
Newsletter	Marianne Simpson
Ways and Means	Vivian Roubal Merlene Ryan Carrie Garrett Cathy McCaughey

Proposed Slate Committee Chairpersons

Rewards/Recognition	Tamara Mannon
Hospitality	Barbara Bouchet
Sunshine	Genie Miller
Handbook	Barb Flavin
Historian	Loretta Mateik
Publicity	Jann Otvos
Seminars/Paint Ins	Liz Doran
Librarian	Lucille Hart
County Fair	Marianne Simpson
Decorative Painting Month	Jo Iaconis (East County) Suzanne Olson & Cathy McCaughey (Central County)
NCCC Representatives	D.J. West Connie Oakley Roz Borgerson
Community Projects	Roz Borgerson
Nominating Committee	Shirley Irwin & Virginia Davidson
Parliamentarian	Jann Otvos
Website	Loretta Mateik

Cathy McCaughey
Nominating Committee Chairperson 2011

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Roz Borgerson

Happy Fall to everyone. Thank you Darlene Smith and Holley Yarberry for the beautiful memory boxes. If anyone wants to paint one please call me Roz Borgerson 925- 825- 6547 Thank You

NCCC News

Roz Borgerson, Connie Oakley, DJ West



The theme for the NCCC Retreat in 2012 is *Carnival of Color*. We are looking for teachers for the 2012 Retreat. If you would like to teach at our upcoming Retreat, please let one of us know.

Below is a list of upcoming painting opportunities with the chapters within NCCC:

10/15-16/2011 – Rosemary West teaching at Grapevine Tolers

1/13-15/12 – Maureen McNaughton, 2012 – 1/13 (evening), 1/14-15 Trudy Beard will be teaching at Monterey Peninsula Decorative Artists

10/22 – Marley Wright-Smith (Christmas Plate); 11/5 – Rosie Mazzamuto will teach a Jamie Mills Price scarecrow at Northern California Decorative Artists

10/22 – Antoinette Cox will be teaching at Toling Belles of Santa Clara County

10/22 – Carole Valtierra will teach “A Taste of Tuscany II” at Wine Country Decorative Artists

Roz, Connie and DJ

NEWSLETTER

Marianne Simpson



All Chapter members are welcome to submit painting or craft related articles for the newsletter. Send the articles to me via e-mail. The deadline for newsletter articles is the last day of each month.

I try my best to keep up to date on members email addresses. However, if you are not receiving your newsletter notification, please contact me as I may have old or incorrect information. Please send any e-mail or address changes to me at maritoler@comcast.net.

Note: The following is our policy regarding the method by which you will receive your newsletter:

If you have Internet access, you will be receiving an email to let you know that the current month's newsletter is available online at our website -

www.tollbridgetolers.org

You will need to log onto the website and read or print the newsletter from there. If you need assistance, please contact Marianne Simpson at maritoler@comcast.net or Loretta Mateik at lmateik@comcast.net. You must have Adobe Acrobat Reader to access and print your newsletter. There are instructions on our website which will allow you to receive your FREE copy of Acrobat Reader.

If you do not have Internet access, you have the option of receiving your newsletter via the mail or as an email attachment. You need to let me know if you choose either of these options.

Cream shortening, sugar and vanilla thoroughly. Add eggs, 1 at a time beating well after each addition. Sift flour, baking powder and baking soda together. Add to creamed mixture alternating with the sour cream blending after each addition.

Topping: Cream butter and add brown sugar, cinnamon and nuts.

Add half the batter to a tube pan. Dot brown sugar topping over batter and then spread the remaining batter on top. Dot the remaining brown sugar mixture on top of batter.

Bake at 350 for 50 minutes. Cool 10 minutes and remove from pan.

Enjoy!

If you have something you would like to sell, trade or give away; or if you have a recipe or idea you want to share, just send me an email with your tips, recipes, questions, comments or wish lists and I'll publish them in the newsletter. It's that easy but the only way this feature works is with *YOUR* input. So please, send your emails to maritoler@comcast.net



“THE TRADING POST”

Several of the members have asked for the recipe for my delicious Sour Cream Coffee Cake. Here it is:

Batter:

½ cup shortening
¾ cups sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
3 eggs
2 cups flour
1 tsp. Baking Powder
1 tsp. Baking Soda
1 cup Sour Cream

Topping:

6 Tbsp. softened butter
1 cup Brown Sugar
2 tsp. Cinnamon
1 cup Chopped Nuts

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Smith Family Farm / Pumpkin Festival: Opens in October (Sellers Ave. between Delta & Sunset Rd., Knightsen, CA): Hayrides to Pumpkin Patch, Live Entertainment, Farm Animals, Scarecrows, Educational Displays, Corn Maze, Sunflower forest, Picnic Area, Crafts, face painting and more. Open to the Public:
12:30pm-5:00pm Mon-Fri
9:00am-5:00pm Sat-Sun
Admission is \$8 on weekdays and \$9 on Weekends.
ADMISSION INCLUDES PUMPKIN FROM THE FIELD!

GOOD SHEPARD BOUTIQUE: Good Shepard Church of Pittsburg is holding a fundraising event on November 19th and they are looking for people to set up a table with their crafts. The table space will cost \$35.00 and you keep all proceeds from your sales. If you are interested, please

contact Joanne or Gail at 925-777-1106 for reservations and additional information.

If anyone knows of other craft fairs or events coming up, please pass the information on to me so I can list it in the upcoming Newsletters.



TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA
September 20, 2011

PRESENT: Cathy McCaughey, Connie Oakley, Merlene Ryan, Carrie Garrett, Karen Vecchi, Jeanie Strech, Darlene Smith, Eileen Galea and Barbara Flavin.

The meeting was called to order by President Karen Vecchi at 7:00 pm. Karen commented on the success of the bunko fundraiser in August. She also announced painted items for display during Decorative Painting Month are needed prior to October 1.

The agenda for the general meeting to follow was reviewed and finalized. Checks will be presented to the two selected charities at the November meeting. Cookie Tillman will accept the check for the Blue Star Moms and Luci Flynn will arrange for a representative from the Independent Living Skills Program to attend.

New Voucher: Barbara Flavin passed out a revised voucher form to the Board and asked for feedback as it is used.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Smith, Secretary



TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

First Lutheran Church, Concord, CA
September 20, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Karen Vecchi with a quorum present. The minutes of the June meeting were approved as published in the July newsletter (Jann Otvos/Connie Oakley).

Karen Vecchi announced the Crowne Plaza in Concord has been reserved for our December holiday party on December 13. The chapter has received an SDP certificate commemorating our 15th anniversary as an affiliated chapter. Karen has several newsletters received from local charities we have donated to in the past. She also brought several roses left over from the 15th anniversary party that were free to anyone who wanted one. The "Paint for Freedom" cards have been sent to SDP.

The ornament frenzy will be held on November 12 at the Plumbers' Hall in Martinez. Reservations and money must be in by October 10.

Programs: Connie Oakley reminded us of the Halloween ornament exchange in October. She asked if the members would like to have a potato bar at the October meeting. All were in agreement and Connie passed around a sign-up sheet for food. The Christmas ornament exchange will be held at the November meeting.

Membership: Jeanie Strech announced membership dues are due. It was noted due to the membership dues increase by SDP, the Fresno chapter is subsidizing their members \$10 to \$15 each to offset the cost. We may consider that in the future or allow members to pay on the installment plan. Jeanie advised she will work with members if needed.

New Voucher: Barbara Flavin passed out a new voucher to the Board members and asked for feedback on how it works as it is used.

Nominating Committee: Cathy McCaughey announced there are several positions to be filled: Membership/2nd Vice President, Publicity Chair, Decorative Painting Month Chairs (Central or West County), and Nominating Committee Chair. Contact her if you are interested in serving. The slate of officers will be published in the October newsletter.

Awards and Recognition: In Tamara Mannon's absence, Cathy McCaughey presented awards to Barbara Flavin, Barbara Bouchet, Carrie Garrett, herself, Connie Oakley, Eileen Galea, Karen Vecchi, Lucille Hart, Marianne Simpson, Merlene Ryan and Shirley Irwin.

Ways and Means: Merlene thanked everyone who contributed raffle prizes and/or food to the bunko fundraiser. She and Vivian Roubal reviewed the finances and advised \$1,652 was raised in the raffle, \$2,400 in ticket sales and expenses of \$800. The raffle moved along very well and everyone felt it was a successful event.

Special Drawing: The basket prepared by Carrie Garrett and Eileen Galea was won by Darlene Smith.

Charities: The selected charities will be presented with checks at the November meeting. Cookie Tillman will accept for the Blue Stars Moms and Luci Flynn will arrange from someone from Independent Living Skills to attend and accept their check. We will discuss at the next meeting how much to donate to charities next year.

Barbara Bouchet advised she has two sets of Genesis paints to give away.

Memory Boxes: Four boxes were painted by Darlene Smith.

Decorative Painting Month: Merlene Ryan, Vivian Roubal and Jo Iaconis are accepting painted items and requested them before October 1.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm and turned over to Connie Oakley. She advised Shirley Irwin was teaching a Halloween pumpkin/cat magnetic note holder.

Karen advised Rose Marie Rozas' husband is currently in a care facility and asked that she be sent cards.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Smith, Secretary

11/27 Luci Flynn
11/28 Patty Bertolucci
11/29 Viola DaSilva
11/30 Sue Platania

HOSPITALITY

Barbara Bouchet



Just a reminder, we will be having a “Baked Potato Bar” at our next meeting. If you plan to come to the October meeting and have not signed up, please either email Connie Oakley at oakley1@lnl.gov or call her 925-825-3851 with what you would like to bring.
(Editor’s Note)

SUNSHINE

Genie Miller



October 2011

10/7 Tamara Mannon
10/24 Barbara Bouchet



November 2011

11/4 Genie Miller
11/5 Barbara Gregoire
11/19 Elizabeth Doran
11/26 Lisa Schall

Purpose

The purpose of the society is a central dissemination point for information about activities related to decorating painting; raise and maintain a high standard for the art of decorative painting; and stimulate interest in and appreciation for the art form.

Notice: First Lutheran church is collecting foodstuffs year round for Project Share. Any donations would be welcome. Contact Darlene Smith for details.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

President	Karen Vecchi	925-228-0409
	Karenvecchi@sbcglobal.net	
1 st V.P., Prog.	Connie Oakley	925-825-3851
	oakley1@lnl.gov	
2 nd V.P., Mem.	Jeanie Strech	707-838-6489
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The costs of advertising in this newsletter are as follows:

		Monthly	Yearly
Business card	Member	\$ 4.00	20.00
	Non Member	5.00	25.00
1/4 Page	Member	7.50	37.50
	Non Member	10.00	50.00
1/2 Page	Member	10.00	50.00
	Non Member	15.00	75.00
Full Page	Member	15.00	75.00
	Non Member	20.00	100.00

Committee Chairpersons

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 Connie Oakley 925-825-3851
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 Librarian Lucille Hart 925-672-4169
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 Community Projects Roz Borgerson 925-825-6547
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 Parliamentarian Jann Otvos 925-706-8365
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 Publicity Lisa Schall 925-699-4226
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 Hospitality Barbara Bouchet 925-682-5312
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 Decorative Painting Jo Iaconis 925-432-6832
 Month – East Cty iaconis@comcast.net
 Decorative Painting Vivian Roubal 925-216-8761



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TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2012

Dues are \$15 per Year, payable October 1, delinquent November 1

SDP# _____ Birth Month and Day _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work _____

Cell _____ Email _____

Fax _____

For Emergencies only Health Issues _____

Medication pertinent to health issues _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ relationship _____

Home phone _____ Cell _____

Are you a new Member Yes _____ No _____

Are you a member of another chapter Yes _____ No _____ Name _____

Are you a teacher _____ Medium _____

Your cancelled check is your receipt of dues payment

SDP membership card or **SDPE**-mail must accompany this application form and return to

Toll Bridge Tolerers
P. O. Box 2671
Martinez, Ca. 94553

Date received _____

Check # _____

Cash _____

OK to publish: Yes or NO

THE TOLL BRIDGE TOLERS
Are Proud to Present
ORNAMENT FRENZY 8
Saturday, November 12, 2011
8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.
Plumbers Hall
Martinez, CA

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

REGISTRATION FEES: This seminar is offered for Toll Bridge Tolars or NCCC members. If you are a non-member, then please add \$5.00 per event. Registration fees are listed below. A continental breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be served. If you have any questions, please contact Liz Doran at (925) 634-5137.

REGISTRATION FEE	TBT/NCCC MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
	\$45.00	\$50.00
TOTAL AMOUNT		

NOTE: All persons registering for the paint-in must use this registration form. Payment must accompany registration form. All classes will have a ***No Smoking Policy***. Please remember that Registration fees are *not refundable but are transferable*. Our goal is to hand out wood and prep instructions at the October meeting, or, you may contact me to make other arrangements. Prep must be completed prior to your arrival at class.

Class starts at 8:00 a.m. Doors open at 7:45 a.m.

There will be a limited amount of extra surfaces available the day of the frenzy. We do not have prices yet, but they are always reasonable. First come first served. Payment is due that day.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS: OCTOBER 10, 2011

NO RESERVATIONS WILL BE TAKEN AFTER THIS DATE!

Please send the Registration Form and Fees to:
Liz Doran, 4920 Cabrillo Pt., Discovery Bay, CA 94505
